

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The following changes to the drawings have been made:

- FIG. 1 is now FIG. 1 and FIG. 1A. A corresponding change has been made to the specification.
- The extraneous words have been removed from FIGS. 1, 1A, and 2.
- Reference numeral 13 has been added to FIG. 1 and FIG. 1A to indicate the lifesaver-shaped, compressed chemical mixture configuration as referred to in the description, as requested by the Examiner.
- Reference numeral 16B has been amended to correctly indicate the Turtle Outlet.
- Reference numeral 15B has been added to indicate the Dilution Outlet.

Lines have been added to FIG. 1 to indicate the cross-sectional view taken in FIG. 1A.

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Leung for the analysis contained in the Office Action dated February 8, 2006. In particular, applicants thank the Examiner for the opportunity to correct defects noted in the specification.

Priority Claim

Applicants thank the Examiner for noting that the priority claim has not been completed. A certified copy of the Canadian priority application will be ordered for filing when allowable subject matter has been confirmed.

Objection to the Drawings

Applicants have taken the opportunity to prepare formal drawings. Amendments to the drawings are believed to overcome the objections raised by the Examiner.

Objection to the Specification

Applicants have addressed the informalities in the disclosure noted by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to correct the reference to "chambers" as noted by the Examiner.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 currently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by McMillan (U.S. Patent No. 2,310,907). Claim 1 has been amended to indicate that the chemicals that are supported are "potassium nitrite and nitrate, chromic oxide and ferric oxide" and that they are "powder mixed with non-reactive binders and compressed to form a compressed solid". McMillan does not teach this, nor could McMillan be used in this manner. McMillan requires the catalyst to be in powder form, or at least not in a compressed form, in order for the gas being fed through the converter to pass through and at the same time come into contact with the

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catalyst. As amended, Claim 1 does not structurally read on the apparatus of McMillan, it is submitted that Claim 1 is not anticipated by McMillan.

New Claim 2 has been added to provide further specifics regarding the compressed solid and the manner in which it is supported, namely the "the supports are in the form of probes extending from the heat source and the compressed solid has a lifesaver shape adapted for placement on one of the probes".

The support for the subject matter in Claim 2 can be found in at least the following locations in the specification:

- on page 3, at line 7, "compressing the chemical mixture into a lifesaver shape."
- on page 3, at line 30, "compressed into a lifesaver configuration."
- on page 4, at line 29, "non-reactant binding reagents, configuration (lifesaver)."
- on page 5, at line 20, "a chemical mixture is compressed into a lifesaver shape that allows convenient placement of the compressed chemical onto a heater probe."

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants, therefore, request the early issue of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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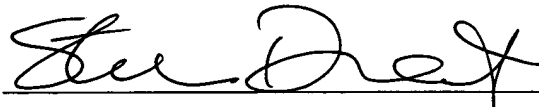


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